

*SAGA presents a bizarre—yet plausible—new theory
on the murders of Pres. John F. Kennedy,
Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., and Sen.
Robert F. Kennedy*

THE TERRIFYING MYSTERY OF AMERICA'S OCCULT ASSASSINS

By Roy Norton

HOW FAR
OUT CAN YOU
GET?



■ The cheering crowd was innocently happy when the slim, boyish politician stepped onto the rostrum of the hotel ballroom. After a few humorous remarks and some serious statements, Sen. Robert F. Kennedy thanked his loyal workers for his victory in the California primary.

"On to the White House!" shouted an enthusiastic campaign worker.

The frenzied crowd cheered. "I think we can end the divisions in the United States today," Kennedy said. "We can end the violence."

After a few final remarks, Bobby Kennedy stepped down and headed toward the press room in the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles. He glanced at the crowd that clogged the main entrance of the ballroom and turned toward the back entrance.

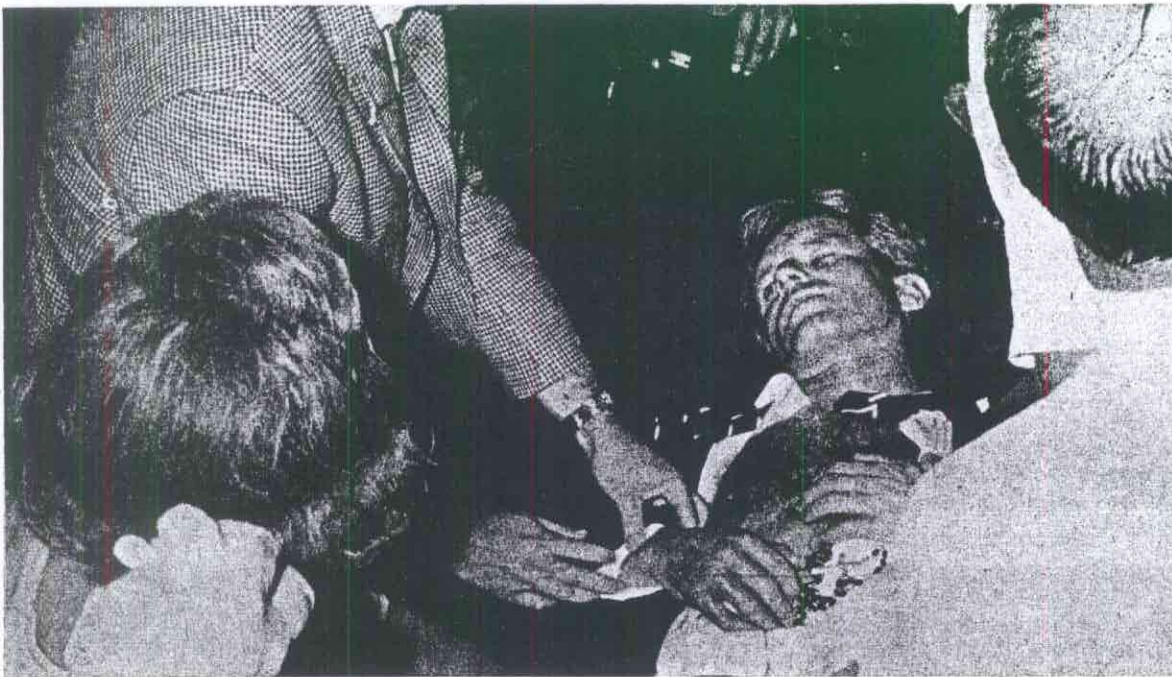
"Let's go out the back," Kennedy said.

Bill Barry, the Senator's body-

guard, frowned.

"It's all right," Kennedy said. He stepped through a swinging door into the hot, odorous corridor where his life would end. As Kennedy stopped to shake hands with a perspiring dishwasher, a young man steadied his gun hand on the edge of a serving counter. Sirhan Sirhan, a short, Jordanian immigrant, fired point-blank at Senator Kennedy. A .22 caliber bullet tore into Kennedy's right armpit. Another slug shattered his skull and penetrated his brain.

Olympic champion, Rafer Johnson, and Los Angeles Ram's lineman, Roosevelt Grier, grabbed the assassin. Sirhan Sirhan was slammed back, disarmed, and spread-eagled on a table. Johnson and Grier protected Sirhan from Kennedy's grief-stricken supporters, angry, screaming men who might have killed the assassin with their bare hands.



"I can explain! Let me explain!" Sirhan shouted. "I can explain!"

As Senator Kennedy was rushed to a hospital, investigators explored the confusing details of the assassination. One item that was overlooked in the horrible aftermath was a ritualistic, occult element in the case. Senator Kennedy was just a few inches from Sirhan when the assassin fired his pistol. The young Senator fell a few inches from a large, white ice cabinet. A strange inscription, almost like an epitaph on a gravestone, was scrawled in crayon on the front door of the cabinet. It read:

"... *The Once and Future King!*"

Who wrote those strange words on the ice cabinet? The inscription has never been explained to the public. At first glance, we might assume these words are a reference to King Arthur and his magical court at Camelot. The play, *Camelot*,

was a favorite of the Kennedys.

However, if we go back in history, the inscription has an ominous, much more deadly meaning. It adds a frightening, occult element to the assassination of Senator Kennedy. "... The Once and Future King" heralded the handiwork of Satan during ancient times. In the eyes of his minions, both mortal and immortal, Satan is the "once and future king" of the Earth. The goat god, Pan, was dealt a severe blow by Christianity; yet, devil worshippers throughout the world fervently hope to revive their pagan cult someday.

If this was the only occult element in the assassination of Senator Kennedy, we could admit to coincidence. After his shooting of Kennedy, Sirhan Sirhan appeared to be in a state of tranquility. "Let me explain!" he shouted, as if words could explain the horrible deed. The enor-

mity of the murder seemingly failed to penetrate his conscious mind. Sirhan acted as if he had been hypnotized, then abruptly awakened from a trance.

Following his arraignment in Los Angeles, Sirhan Sirhan calmly requested a copy of *The Secret Doctrine* by Madame H. P. Blavatsky. The book was published in the 1890s by the controversial Madame Blavatsky, who claimed to be a disciple of a group of "secret masters." *The Secret Doctrine* is like a bible to many fervent occultists around the world.

It may also have shocked orthodox materialists when news leaked out that Sirhan Sirhan's defense attorneys considered basing their case in court on an unusual assertion. They debated that Sirhan Sirhan had been possessed by the evil spirit of a dead Arab nationalist. "They hoped to prove that Sirhan was un-

der the total control of this fanatical spirit when he killed Senator Kennedy," said a Los Angeles police official.

A new weird, chilling theory has been advanced in recent months to link the occult with various assassinations throughout history. A few years ago, when the world seemed logical and simple, people would have scoffed at the thought of a human mind controlled by outside forces. Now, with new mechanical, electrical, and chemical advances of mind control, and programmed behavior, we can no longer be certain of anything.

Is it possible that Sirhan Sirhan was controlled by some undefinable, obsessive, force? Lee Harvey Oswald, the assassin of Pres. John F. Kennedy, believed there was a bizarre, international secret society of demonic individuals. "They are the devilmen," Oswald said.

Prior to that infamous week in 1963, Oswald spoke often of an "international league of people" who had willingly allowed the Devil to possess them so that they might do his Satanic bidding—for their personal profit. Oswald believed these devilmen were, in effect, a secret world power that operated behind the scenes. The group was supposed to have members in key positions in each of the world's governments.

Since the Warren Report was released, a growing band of critics have exposed the flaws in that official investigation. A public opinion poll revealed that only 35 percent of Americans believed the Warren Report told the full story about the murder of Pres. John F. Kennedy. We are concerned here with the links between Oswald, pilot David Ferrie, and Oswald's killer, Jack Ruby. New evidence indicates each of these men was involved in occult activities.

David Ferrie, now deceased, stopped studying for the priesthood in the late 1940s. Later, he posed as a fraudulent psychiatrist, worked as a private detective, and eventually obtained a commercial pilot's license. Ferrie was an instructor in the Civil Air Patrol in New Orleans. One of his pupils was Lee Harvey Oswald. Unofficial investigators believe the bizarre little man was involved in the assassination of President Kennedy, although the War-

Many assassinations of important political figures throughout history have contained weird occult aspects that the authorities either overlooked or suppressed. For example, Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, killed by a young Jordanian immigrant, fell near a crayon-scrawled inscription to "... The Once and Future King!", an ominous reference to a society of demonic individuals. Later, the Senator's assassin requested a book that occultists around the world regard as their "bible." And President Kennedy's killer believed in "international devilmen." Are these assassins just psychotics—or are they controlled by some undefinable, obsessive force? A wealth of evidence, that has been suppressed by government investigators but is presented here for the first time, seems to point to the latter!

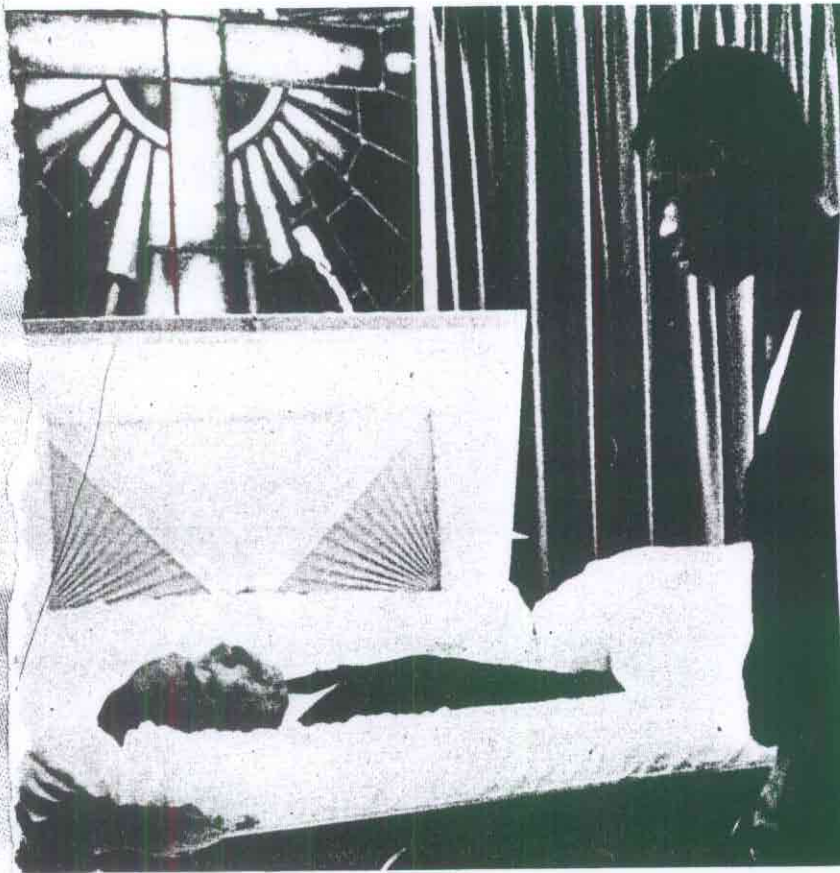
ren Report failed to follow several leads. Ferrie died before he could be interrogated by New Orleans district attorney, Jim Garrison, a leading critic of the Warren Report.

Ferrie was a slight, hawk-faced man. There is no record of his activities for several years in the 1950s; rumors claim he flew U-2 spy planes for the CIA during this time. Ferrie turned up with all of the hair missing from his body, an occupational hazard from flying at high altitudes. "He wore a cheap red wig and false eyebrows," said an acquaintance. "He looked like something out of a Marx brothers movie."

In the late 40s, Ferrie flew commercial planes out of the airports around Columbus, Ohio. He is remembered as a man with a deep interest in the occult, hypnotism, and similar subjects. W. A. Wampler,

a retired businessman, recalled Ferrie's fanaticism in those days: "He had all of his hair then. I hardly recognized his photographs in the newspapers," Wampler stated. "I was interested in flying, but when Ferrie and I got to talking it always moved into witchcraft, demonology, and dark forces that could control people's minds. Most of the time I didn't know what he was talking about; it was completely beyond me.

"Ferrie was well-educated. He was a widely read individual," Wampler continued. "He was obsessed with a belief that God and Satan were waging a battle for control of the world. At times, he seemed to have an almost Satanic idea about life. Other times, he seemed religious in an orthodox manner. He used to say that the priests in the Inquisition



had not eliminated the 'Evil One.' He said the Devil was real. Satan and his demons had formed an underground movement and demonic hordes would appear again in the future."

Wampler felt there was a possibility that Ferrie experimented with drugs. "He told me that certain drugs could open a man's mind to devilish influences," Wampler stated. (Wampler added that he recalled Ferrie's earlier statement years later when the murders committed by Charles Manson's drugged followers occurred.)

During his last weeks in New Orleans, Lee Harvey Oswald met David Ferrie on several occasions. They were undoubtedly a strange pair: a young ex-Marine defector to the Soviet Union and a little man in a red fright wig. Ferrie and Oswald attended several parties in private homes and apartments in New Orleans during this time, some with sinister ritualistic overtones.

"There were some real weird people in New Orleans in those days,

baby," reported an independent investigator. "New Orleans has always been a haven for homosexuals, witch doctors, and voodoo is still strong down here. There are remnants of old Dr. John's voodoo cults out in the boondocks. After the President was killed in Dallas, there was word out in the right places about Oswald and Ferrie being at several of these occult parties. These were private affairs where circles are drawn on the floor, black candles lit, and the rest of that spooky jazz. Ferrie was a favorite of that crowd because he was a good hypnotist."

After the assassination of President Kennedy, assassin Lee Harvey Oswald also acted in a strange, irrational manner. "Oswald's movements can become understandable only if we consider that he was controlled," a critic of the Warren Report has stated. "It is entirely possible that Oswald was under some sort of mind control. He might have been hypnotized. You are undoubtedly (Continued on page 60)



James Earl Ray

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ammonia and methane. It has even been imaginatively suggested that some intelligent alien agency, some prehistoric Carl Sagan from another solar system, was responsible for this benevolent rearrangement of our almost lifeless world, and deliberately dropped the vital bacteriological seeds into our primitive sky.

It is unlikely that Venus could ever make a similar change unassisted, no matter how many millions of years we waited—simply through lack of surface water. The first human colonists will have to be ruthlessly strict in water rationing, until something like our familiar terrestrial climates evolve. There is one place in the solar system besides the Earth where water is thought to be plentiful. This is the Asteroid Belt, between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter, in which many asteroids or minor planets, some of them several miles in diameter, are believed to consist mostly of water ice. A technology more advanced than ours would have little difficulty in using powerful rocket engines to shift these ice asteroids into Venus's orbit, where they would be conveniently accessible to the colonists.

Living on Venus will have its inconveniences. Because the planet rotates so slowly, 118 earth days elapse between each sunrise. Each day and each night lasts about 60 earth days. The two-month nights, with their extreme cold and icy blizzards, will resemble Antarctic winters. To avoid these vigils, the colonists will need day camps and night camps, each at the antipodes of the other. By keeping on the move in this way, it will be possible to live in perpetual daylight. The slow rotation cycle augurs ill for the building of large and elegant cities, whose permanent character makes them traditional symbols of enduring civilization. But tolerable nocturnal cheerfulness can doubtless be provided by bright lights and heated streets.

Several unexpected discoveries could wreck Sagan's plan. If native organisms were found in the carbon dioxide clouds—some form of life of different

chemistry from ours—they might attack and destroy the algae. If the reported water vapor proves not to exist, there will be no photosynthesis and the giant chemical reactions cannot take place. It is no exaggeration to say that the whole future of human civilization may have been invested in the designs of the remote-controlled instruments that were sent in the past decade to Venus from Cape Kennedy and Baikonur.

Mars used to be considered the most favorable place for establishing a second world. It was at least possible to see the surface through telescopes and argue about what had been seen. But recent thought has recognized that no easy mechanism exists to transform its tenuous atmosphere into breathable air. With only a tenth of the Earth's mass, it lacks the gravitational pull to retain a reasonable amount of gases. And it has 10,000 times less carbon dioxide and nitrogen than Venus; not even the most brilliant planetary engineer can create an atmosphere from such sparse materials. Venus has another advantage. It comes nine million miles closer to Earth than any other planet. At a distance of 26 million miles at its nearest approach, it is little more than 100 times farther away than the Moon.

Residents of Venus may have slightly longer lifespans than their cousins back on Earth—ignoring all medical advances that have been made on Earth by that time. Because of the slightly lower surface gravity, 86 percent that of Earth, the colonists will suffer proportionally less strain on their hearts than terrestrials. The first few days of their occasional visits to Earth will probably be exhausting as the weight of their bodies suddenly increases.

"Carl Sagan always has something important to say," a colleague remarked when the Venus plan was published. By the time he was 36, the startling character of his ideas had given him an international reputation. His 490-page, semi-popular book, *Intelligent Life in the Universe*, written in conjunction with the Soviet astronomer Iosif Shklovsky, had

one notable peculiarity: during the entire time of writing, the two co-authors never set eyes upon each other. The entire compilation was done by correspondence. Shklovsky was never able to leave Russia, and Sagan never went there, and so the construction of every sentence had to be agreed by mail. "The probability of our ever meeting is unlikely to be higher than the probability of a visit to Earth by an alien," wrote Shklovsky sadly. Yet between them they produced a masterpiece of scientific writing.

Sagan thinks he is "remarkably lucky to be alive at this particular moment in history—because I'm doing precisely what I would have wanted to do at any time."

"If I had lived 30 or 40 years earlier there would not have been the opportunities afforded by the present state of science. And if I were not born until 50 years from now, I would miss the opportunity to participate in this developmental stage of space exploration. On a random basis, the odds of being alive at this particular time are extremely small."

Sagan is anxious that the execution of his plan to conquer the second world of Venus should be delayed. It should be done, he wrote when proposing the plan, "only after the present environment has been thoroughly explored, to prevent the irreparable loss of unique scientific information."

Here is the tragedy that often afflicts men of technical genius. They use their scientific knowledge to solve a problem and then, like the inventors of new and terrible weapons, urge passionately in the same breath that the solution be delayed or abandoned. But it is too late. It is much easier to set events in motion than to arrest them. Armed with Sagan's blueprint, sooner or later somebody will carry out his plan—with or without his permission. The prize to be won will be too great for the colonists to worry whether they are committing cosmic vandalism or destroying scientific data that can never be replaced.

★ THE END

Next Month: Faster-than-light spaceships.

OCCULT ASSASSINS

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familiar with the hypnotized bank robber in Scandinavia a few years ago."

The case is a classic in the annals of hypnosis. On the afternoon of Mar. 29, 1951, 33-year-old Palle Hardupp walked into a Copenhagen bank with a pistol and killed two bank officers. Hardupp was eventually apprehended, but he denied any knowledge of the crime. Detectives eventually obtained a tip that the hapless Swede had been hypnotized by a friend, Bjorn Nielsen, a real-life Svengali.

"Hardupp acted against his normal behavioral pattern when he committed this crime," said Dr. Paul Ritter, testifying at the trial. Head of the psychiatric hospital of prestigious Copenhagen City Hospital, Ritter was a noted authority on hypnosis and mind behavior. "Hardupp was in an insane, semiconscious condition where his

free will was destroyed through repeated hypnotic suggestion; Hardupp was driven to murder by an external compulsion."

"But will people do something under hypnosis they wouldn't do normally?" asked the prosecutor.

"A hypnotist can induce an individual to commit a crime by suggesting there is a good motive," replied Dr. Ritter. "Bjorn Nielsen told Hardupp that the loot from the bank robbery would be used to fight communism. He knew Hardupp was an avowed anticommunist. In his hypnotized state, Hardupp became a walking time bomb. He went into the bank and didn't even ask the teller for money. He just started shooting."

Hardupp was sentenced to an indeterminate period at a psychiatric hospital. Hypnotist and mastermind of the plot, Bjorn Nielsen, was sentenced to life imprisonment. "I wanted to test my power as a hypnotist," he confessed. "I believe people can be instructed to do anything

under hypnosis."

Could the same control have been exerted on assassin Lee Harvey Oswald? Was Ferrie one of the "devilmen" that Oswald spoke about? "Oswald may have possibly been drugged," said another critic of the Warren Report. "He had escaped from the scene of the assassination. There was simply no reason for Oswald to shoot officer Tippit (a policeman killed soon after Kennedy) and bring on a manhunt. Mescaline is a powerful drug that causes loss of the power of reasoning. The drug breaks the link between reality, time, and fantasy. A person on mescaline can easily be manipulated by a hypnotist, or anyone who understands the properties of the drug."

Jack Ruby, the pudgy Dallas nightclub owner who gunned down Oswald, predicted his own death when he stated he would die in jail before a trial. Ruby, an intense believer in astrology and planetary influences on human destiny, relied

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on his daily horoscope as if the words were written on stone. Ruby also enjoyed having the show girls in his club read aloud to him from books on the occult. Shortly before his death, it has been reported, Ruby's favorite subject of conversation was demon possession and the effect of the new hallucinogenic drugs on men's minds.

In the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and the "quick-deal" guilty plea by confessed assassin James Earl Ray, many questions were left unanswered. How did Ray, a stranger in Memphis, know where to rent a room that overlooked Dr. King's motel? How did Ray know that King would appear on the balcony? Conceivably, King could have flown out of town that same afternoon. Was Ray under some form of control? Why would Ray go out of his way to leave his shaving kit as a calling card at an assassination?

Once again, we find a familiar occult pattern in Ray's background. After escaping from Missouri State Prison, Ray fled to California. There, he began a study of hypnosis. He concentrated on various methods of self-hypnosis. Could he have been hypnotized by some unknown person, then led into being duped as the "fall guy" in the King assassination?

Jacson, the mysterious assassin of Russian revolutionist Leon Trotsky, was also known by the alias of Jacques van den Dreschd. Trotsky fell out with Stalin in the bloody communist purges of the 1930s, and the bearded old revolutionist was forced to flee from Russia. In 1937, he settled with his entourage in Mexico City. Jacson worked his way into Trotsky's confidence, then slipped up behind the old man and killed him with an ax blow to the head.

Jacson was quickly apprehended and sent to prison in Mexico. He was content during his long years in prison. He read occult books, including his well-worn, marked copy of Madame Blavatsky's *The Secret Doctrine*. When questioned about his grisly crime, Jacson denied any political motives for the assassination. "They made me commit murder," was all that he ever said.

Were "they" who commanded Jacson a living group of conspirators? Or, were "they" the strange voices that assassins frequently hear? Were "they" like the private demons that haunted the assassin of Pres. James Garfield?

On the morning of July 2, 1881, President Garfield and his party arrived at the Baltimore and Potomac railroad station in Washington, D.C. The President planned to give a brief speech at Williams College in Massachusetts, then journey to the Summer White House on the New Jersey shore for a needed vacation.

The Secret Service was not so security conscious in those days. The presidential party paid no attention to a slight, bearded little man who walked up to their group. No one noticed when the man slipped his trembling right hand into the inner pocket of his frayed suit coat and withdrew a snub-nosed British Bulldog pistol.

The assassin fired a bullet into the President's back. As the wounded President slumped to the floor, the assassin

fired again. With a slight smile on his face, the killer walked calmly toward an exit.

The assassin was apprehended and identified as Charles Guiteau, a 50-year-old attorney, religious fanatic, pamphlet writer, and fervent advocate of the occult sciences. In his jail cell, Charles Guiteau was without remorse for his deed. "I had to do it," he told newsmen. "The obsession pressed harder and harder. It never let up. Two hours after it was done, I was wonderfully relieved. You never saw anyone as relieved as I was."

Throughout his life, Guiteau had experimented with cultism, offbeat religious movements and various occult rituals and rites. He was fascinated with seances and alleged communications with spirits from beyond the grave, or other worlds. He stated that such etheric communication brought a man a "spirit" that compelled him to do, or not do, something.

"Get acquainted with the science of the spirits," Guiteau advised his interrogators. "You will get much sense from the spirits."

Death came slowly for President Garfield. He lingered near death through the warm, agonizing days of a hot summer. That fall, complications developed and he died. "It was the deity who inspired me to kill the President," Guiteau insisted, when he was notified of Garfield's death. "I had to use my judgment how to accomplish the Lordy's (sic) will, but I was acting according to my orders."

Guiteau had always marched to a bizarre drummer, but his "guiding voice," "my Lordy," never gave him the secret for success. Guiteau failed miserably at every enterprise he launched. Physically and emotionally exhausted, recently divorced, and penniless, he walked to the nation's capital in 1881 to seek his fortune. Paradoxically, he was obsessed with a feeling of infallibility, a sense of destiny. These conditions may have created an attitude of receptivity when he heard a disembodied voice in the shadows of his rundown Washington rooming house.

"The President must be killed," the voice whispered. "The President must die. You must save the nation."

We don't know if this was a manifestation of an inner voice, what psychiatrists call schizophrenia, or a malevolent entity.

"You are the man to kill the President," the voice commanded.

Later, Guiteau confessed that he reacted with shock and revulsion. "I have never been a violent man," he explained. "I wondered if this was a true revelation from the deity or a temptation from Satan and his minions. I prayed for many weeks and the voice eventually revealed itself to be of a Divine Presence."

After the death of President Garfield, Guiteau was brought to trial and sentenced to death. He launched abusive, shouting attacks against the prosecution, the judge, and even his defense attorneys. He relied on his voice, "my Lordy," for deliverance.

"The Lordy will take care of me!" Guiteau screamed. "My enemies will be exiled from Paradise!"

The bearded little man walked calmly to the gallows on the morning of June 30, 1882. "... And fear not them that kill



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the body but are not able to kill the soul," he recited from the tenth chapter of Matthew. Then he read a poem entitled "I am going to the Lordy; I am so Glad!" Guiteau's poem fluttered to the prison yard as the hangman sprung the trap. To the end, Guiteau swore his "voice" had compelled him to assassinate the President. "I believe that voice was God," he maintained.

Somewhere during his travels, or in his experiments in the occult, Charles Guiteau acquired a private demon, a "Lordy" who whispered sinister orders. Could this voice actually have come from some other worldly, evil entity who sought to use the little man as a human dupe? Or, was his "Lordy" simply a manifestation of his warped personality?

Many assassinations of important political figures throughout history have had these occult elements. Mass murders, and senseless killings are also triggered by "voices." Many murders are also committed by people who have dabbled in the occult. An example of these cases include:

- On June 3, 1970, the body of Mrs. Florence Nancy Brown was found in a shallow grave on a highway between San Juan Capistrano and Elsinore, Calif. Investigators determined that the 31-year-old schoolteacher was killed, then her right arm, heart, and lungs removed to carry out a sacrifice to Satan. Stephen Hurd, arrested as a suspect in another murder, reportedly confessed to the slaying of Mrs. Brown. Hurd's attorney, William K. Gamble, admitted that the young

man told him he was a member of a Satanist cult. The cult believed in their "right to snuff people out" if a part of the victim's body was sacrificed to the Devil.

Attorney Gamble later released the contents of two letters to the press. Stephen Hurd had written them to his family from the Orange County jail. They reveal insights into the mind of a self-confessed devil worshipper.

"What's wrong with me? Maybe if I stop believing in the Devil I'll be all right," Hurd scribbled. "But I can't. Because when I'm alone here he shows me what they are trying to do. He talks to me . . ."

"Nobody will talk to me. They think I'm a madman. But I really am not. I just want someone to be nice to me. So why do they keep calling me names?" the letter continued. (Following indictments by the Orange County Grand Jury, Stephen Hurd and three other persons were arraigned in Superior Court in Santa Ana on Aug. 14, 1970. The defendants must be presumed innocent unless and until a jury determines otherwise.)

- Earle Nelson, a boyish mass murderer, left a trail of grisly murders behind him as he wandered through the U.S. and Canada in the 1920s, killing on command from "voices." Apprehended in Winnipeg, Canada, for the murder of Emily Patterson, Nelson claimed he had done no wrong. He had merely followed the instructions of his "voices." The young man, who had raped and strangled 20 women, claimed the voices had controlled

him since childhood. "The voices could take over my body and do whatever they wished," he swore. "... If I didn't follow their instructions, they created blinding headaches that hurt me for days. When I followed their orders, the headaches stopped."

- The Manson family, which killed film actress Sharon Tate and others in Los Angeles, were deep into drugs, occult rituals, and symbolic devil rites.

- San Francisco's "Zodiac killer" murders his victims to have "slaves in my afterlife."

What can we conclude from these bizarre case histories?

1) There could be definite patterns between the occult and random, nonpolitical assassinations and murders:

The random assassin is acting out an obsession, a delusion, a feeling of persecution, or a belief that he acts on command from a "higher intelligence." Certain occultists have warned against "hostile vibrations," "psychic attack," and the possibility that normal people may fall under the control of an evil entity. Throughout history, there has been enough of a pattern between assassins and the occult to warrant additional study. Guiteau killed under orders from his "Lordy." Earle Nelson strangled innocent women on command from his voices. Oswald feared the league of "international devilmens." Sirhan, or someone, scrawled an inscription to the Devil before Senator Kennedy was shot. The practice of hypnotism, occult rituals, and similar sub-